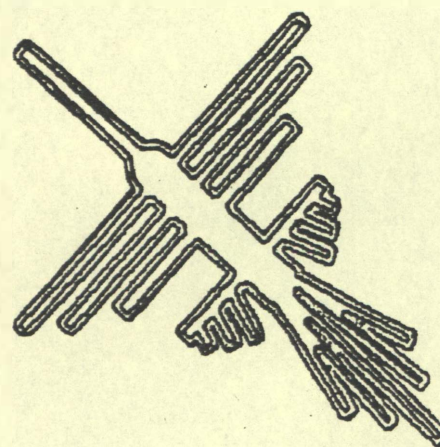
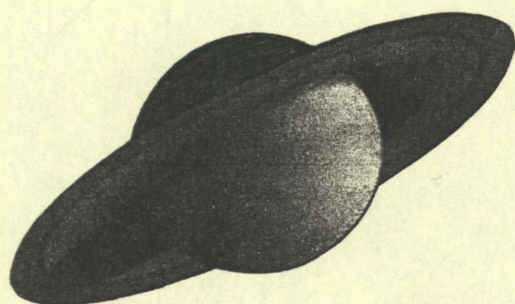
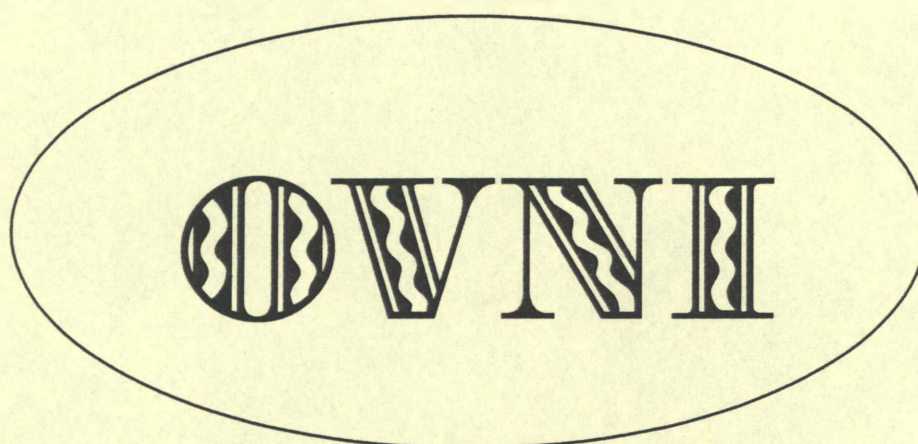
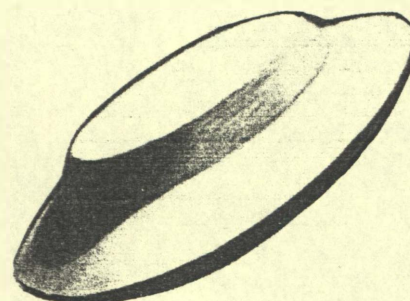
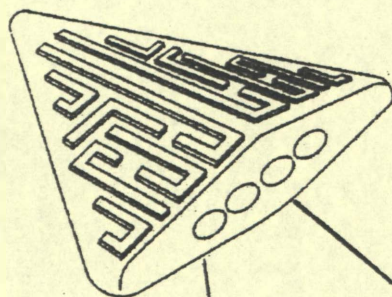


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Group Leader

Omar Fowler
94 The Circle,
Sinfen,
Derby. DE24 9H
Tel/Fax 01332 761464

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E-Mail: Bontor@aol.com

Secretary

Karen Richardson
(Derby)

Tel. 01332 558662

CROP CIRCLES: IS THIS THE END OF THE LINE?

“Crop Circles used to be the work of amateur pranksters.

Now flattening wheat fields is a lucrative commercial enterprise.”

A Report by Kate Burt: Independent.co.uk News (*Extract*). 06 July 2004

Rod Dickinson clearly remember the night he made his first crop circle. It was the summer of 1991, just months before the famous crop-circle hoaxing duo, Doug Bower and Dave Chorley, came out about their nocturnal wheat flattening activities; a time when the nation was still gripped by the idea that aliens might feasibly have been parking up in fields at night, all over the southern English countryside.

“No one had really mooted the idea these things might have been man-made,” said Dickinson, an artist “as far as people were concerned, me included, there were definitely other possibilities; at least some unexplained natural phenomena. I was fascinated.” So when a friend challenged Dickinson to join him in an illicit attempt to create their own crop circle, the pair found themselves on their knees in the middle of the night, with a not very elegant, not very round mess on their hands.

Thirteen years later, Dickinson has just completed what he estimates to be his 500th foray into the art of what’s become known as “circle-making”. This time things were a little different. The medium was sand, not crops and the ambitious formation replicated a photo image that Dickinson and his circle-making partner, John Lundberg, 35, had spent several weeks translating into a series of co-ordinates on a computer designed programme. From this, they’d created complex numerical spreadsheets, filled with measurements, from which his team of 13 assistants worked. He’d also secured an advance permission from the landowner, there was a four strong BBC film crew to capture the work in progress; a helicopter booked so a photographer could capture the end result and a PR. Oh yes, and at this time, he and Lundberg got paid several thousand pounds for their efforts by the satellite channel UK TV Gold, who commissioned the piece to launch their new comedy season.

Last year, Dickinson and Lundberg completed their most lucrative commission to date, for the American computer-chip company AMD. It involved making two “eco-paint” designs on grass in England and three across the States—one in sand, two in grass, all photographed by satellites. Thanks to the pair’s slick, award-winning website (circlemakers.org), the business has snowballed since it was launched 10 years ago.

They’ve already also been booked by clients including Weetabix, O2, Big Brother, Mitsubishi and Thompson Holidays and have just taken on a big commission for the Japanese company, Hello Kitty. The budget for the Big Brother campaign was rumoured to have been a quarter of a million.

Well, we told you so! The PRA gave up investigating Crop Circles years ago, after producing a paper on the HF/micro-wave theory being responsible for the single ‘naturally’ formed circles that have been occurring for centuries, stating that ‘Pictograms’ were being intelligently produced..

Thanks to Busty Taylor for drawing attention to this article. Aerial Photographer, Busty Taylor has flown over 38,000 in 19 years photographing Crop Circles. He stated some months ago that computer equipped experts were probably making the complicated ‘Pictograms’.

For the full story go to: http://news.independent.co.uk/uk/this_britain/story.jsp?story=538392

UFO OVER NEWTHORPE, NOTTINGHAM 5th JUNE 04

We received a report from a Mrs 'LM' of Newthorpe (near Eastwood), Nottingham describing the sighting of an object at 5.55am on the 5th June this year:

I had woken up early because an arthritic pain in my leg (I am not on any strong medication, just glucosamine sulphate and paracetamol). I had to take some papers out to the garage and I opened the garage door, looking across my neighbours hedge to the west as I did so.

I saw what I thought was an aeroplane flying in the sky, it looked odd, so I looked again. It looked about the size of a holiday jet liner, but it didn't taper off towards the tail and there were no wings! Also there was a bright light, it looked like a star, I thought at first that it was a star, but it moved along keeping pace with the main craft. It then disappeared out of sight behind my neighbours bungalow. I went around to the front of the bungalow and watched it from there. The 'star thing' was still there with it.

The main object was cylindrical, perhaps what some people might call 'cigar shaped', but at the centre it was nipped in all around, like a waist.

It looked silvery in the sky like aeroplanes do and it was at a similar height to aeroplanes, but I could not hear any noise.

While I was watching it at the front of the house, the 'star' suddenly just disappeared.

I returned indoors and my husband said "it's five to six, where have you been?" That's how I know the exact time. When I went in, the object was slightly to the West of me, travelling North East.

I should add that it was a beautiful sunny morning at that time. The sky was clear as a bell—a lovely light blue. The sun rises to the left of my bungalow, so it was behind me, lighting up the sky where the objects were.

The outline of the object was sharply defined at the time and it moved across the sky quite quickly.

* 'Star thing'



The two parts looked exactly the same

A drawing of the object, based on Mrs LM's sketch.

Editors comments:

A difficult problem here, with the object reflecting the sun in a similar way to an aircraft. This can cause all kinds of reflective problems, leading to mis-identification of an aircraft.

In an official RAF aircraft magazine some years ago, there were a number of photographs/ drawings in small numbered boxes, showing only parts of an aircraft that were reflected and thus producing bizarre patterns. The reader had to identify the aircraft and check the bottom of the page to read the answers. The page was called 'mis-identification'.

We could have a similar problem here, with Mrs LM not being familiar with aircraft reflections, but it appears that this is not the case

The witness viewed the object for several minutes as it moved 'very fast' across the sky. She in fact changed her viewing position and it seems likely that the travelling object would also have changed its reflective surface as it moved across the sky, causing a shape change to be seen. But the shape did not change! There is also the 'star-like' light to account for? The star kept pace with the object until suddenly the 'star' suddenly disappeared. A real puzzle and we can only say at this stage a 'UFO'.

'AL' THE MESSENGER



Alan May

Let me introduce you to Alan May ('AL'), an Ontario farmer who has been harassed by 'Flying Triangles', Men in Black and mysterious helicopters for the past 12 years!

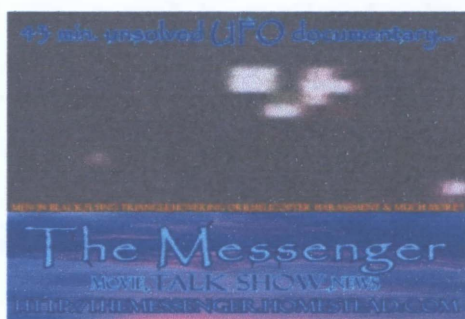
I have featured a selection of AL's photo's showing triangular light formations and of particular interest is the photo (1) shown in last month's OVNI. This photograph has since been colour enhanced by the PRA and shows what appears to be a glowing power source beneath it in photo (2).



Photo 1.



Photo 2.



Take a look <http://www.themessenger.homestead.com/> AL's photo of one of the mysterious helicopters

Latest Report: June 22 11.30pm. I was sitting outside, when to the south I spotted a pair of bright white lights, one on top of the other...about the size of a pea at arms length. They were quite bright and didn't move at all. They were probably over Lake Eirie. After about 15 seconds, the lights dimmed and they flew from horizon to horizon-heading North, one behind the other, no noise from either light.

About an hour after that, I spotted a FT with a red nose light, 2 white lights at the back...it sounded like a normal jet...perhaps a Stealth? Heading east to west. Then coincidence or not, it showed up an hour later. Maybe I wasn't the only one that noticed the night-time visitors...Strange night....

MYSTERY OBJECT SEEN OVER SPONDON, DERBY ON 22nd MAY 04

A report from PRA member 'Ziggy'

It was about 2pm on the 22nd May, when Mr PH' called to his wife to come and look at the strange silver object in the sky.

Mrs PH remarked "My husband brought my attention to the object in the sky which was travelling from a NE direction to SW. We watched it for about one minute or a little less when I ran into the house to fetch my binoculars, which I keep handy to study wildlife in the garden.

I looked through the binoculars and it seemed that there were lights on the top, bottom and sides of the object.

I was not the only person to view the object as there were 3 neighbours in their garden next door who also saw it. It is difficult to say how long it remained in view, I would hazard a guess and say 4 to 5 minutes, until it went out of sight over the roof-tops.

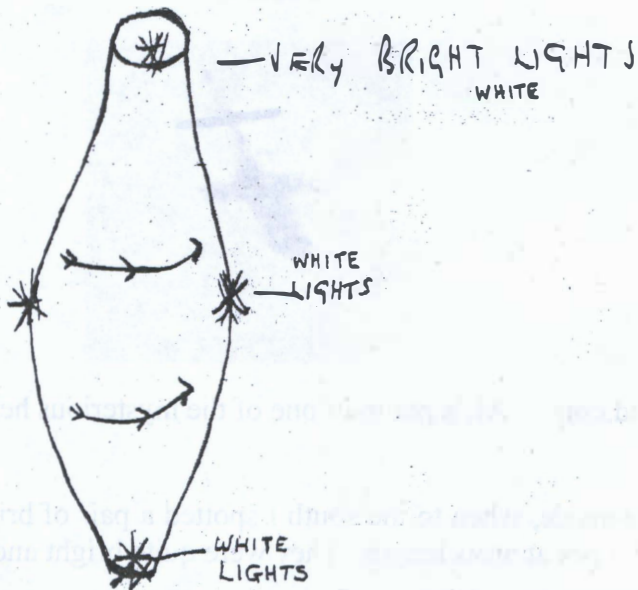
I cannot say how high it was or at what the speed the object was travelling. The object appeared to revolve as it moved along.

My husband said that there was a cylinder type attachment at the base of the object, but I did not see any. It was extremely bright and made no sound that we were aware of. There were no signs of a vapour trail near the object. It was a strange shape (see sketch) and there appeared to be lights on the outside of the object.

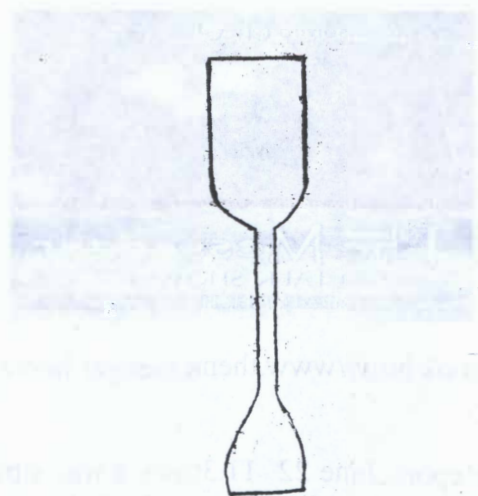
Mr PH said "it was a silver cylinder which was too high up in the sky to be a balloon". He just could not see how it managed to stay up there at all.

Two of the other witnesses seemed reluctant to talk about it, but the 12 year old boy definitely thought it was a UFO. He told me that "it was egg-shaped, with something coming down from it."

Apparently bright lights were seen over Stoke-on-Trent the same evening 22nd May. One witness rang Radio Stoke and said he saw 2 bright lights performing manoeuvres about 9.10pm, then they merged together and instantly disappeared.



Mrs PH's drawing, looking through binoculars



Mr PH's initial impression

UFO's - 'The French Connection'

By Paul Ponssot ©

For the past three months (April—June 2004), Paul Ponssot has been investigating 'contactee' incidents in France as part of his University Course (Paris) and also working on behalf of the Derby based Phenomenon Research Association. He has unearthed some intriguing cases and the first three are covered in the following article.

France is well known for its good wine and cheeses. For UFO researchers France is the country of the 'COMETA' report, where for the first time in the world, top military officers and scientists acknowledged that the UFO phenomenon was of ET origin.

It is also well known for its close encounters of the 3rd kind such as Valensole. However, many people—including Ufologists—think that France is a poor country as far as abductions and contacts are concerned, but nothing could be further from the truth.

At a UFO conference, when one might ask if any people have experienced contact or contact-like symptoms, there will be an average of 3 to 4 people that will speak out. Although some might be deluded most of them are normal people from various backgrounds.

My belief is that France, like the USA or Brazil is not spared from alien abductions. But because of the aura of ridicule that surrounds alien contact and the subject of UFO's in the eyes of the general public, the country of Descartes (*France*) has no network to investigate any abduction claim, therefore they remain unknown.

In my investigation I have uncovered no less than 3 abduction cases and they are just the tip of the iceberg.

These cases are:

- (1) Mr JC, who woke up as a child with black figures at the side of his bed and who seem to have guided his thoughts ever since.
- (2) Edmonde is a lifelong abductee - contactee who has also experienced the psychic phenomena often associated with abductions. Her account seemed at first to be extremely far fetched, however, after having spoken with her extensively, I realized she was telling the truth.
- (3) Mr D, who experienced an abduction with physical effects on his body that were later medically assessed. This gentleman's account also included multiple witnesses, making it potentially one of the most important cases in the world.

In the following pages I will present you with as much detail as possible on these cases. In the second part of my article, I will relate what I think the abduction phenomenon means to France and the world.

Part 1 The witnesses

(1) JC is a forty year old man from the south of France: he is of French, German, Jewish and African stock. His first encounter took place when he was just 3 years old.

One evening he woke up to the presence of several figures: they were shadowy-looking with extremely piercing eyes. In their presence JC did not experience the fear that would have been the classic symptoms of a child of his age, instead he felt a sensation of inner peace and calm. Our witness also experienced another contact when he was five years old.

He is certain that he has since undergone further contacts although he does not remember experiencing any missing time.

When he was a child and a teenager JC thought that the beings he encountered were benevolent extraterrestrials, however with the passing of time he has become increasingly wary of the entities he encountered.

French Connection: Contd.

He now believes that they control his thoughts and that they want him to do evil (for example he recalls that when he was 25 years old he was compelled to encourage young children to smoke). JC says that he is the victim of these beings and he wishes that his contacts had never taken place.

Although the account of this man may seem like a spirit possession rather than a UFO contact, I have chosen to put him in the latter category as he is adamant that the beings he encountered were not spirits but non-human beings.

(2) The next case I will delve into concerns a 57 year old woman called Edmonde B. She lives in Paris and has undergone numerous contacts with extraterrestrial beings. In the aftermath of these contacts she has developed (like many other abductees and contactees), numerous psychic abilities, clairvoyance and healing powers.

What I am about to tell you will seem incredible to some, but having met the main witness and having spoken to her extensively I can vouch for her sincerity. Her first encounter took place near the town of Montebeliard in the North East of France.

One winter afternoon of 1972 Edmonde was driving home from work with two colleagues when they encountered a landed saucer shaped object 10 meters in diameter, in a field near the road.... Suddenly it was dark! The three were puzzled at first and then shocked as they realized that 3 hours had vanished from their lives!

It was only when she was placed under hypnosis many years later that Edmonde was able to reveal that during her episode of missing time she had undergone a typical abduction examination.

During the period of the abduction, Edmonde's colleagues had simply been left in the car in a comatose type state but she had been subjected to a medical examination by beings with a greenish scaly skin.

Although they had such an unconventional appearance, she had described them in her own words as 'beautiful'.

Edmonde's next contact took place in the town of Orange in south-eastern France in 1978.

She was staying in the town with a colleague, for professional reasons. They were supposed to stay in a small hotel in the town centre, however at the last minute Edmonde heard a voice telling her to change her hotel and to spend the evening in the hills above Orange. She decided to take the advice of 'the voice' and changed her hotel, then later together with her colleague, she went up into the hills.

Suddenly the pair noticed a huge saucer shaped object emitting beams of light, "it appeared from nowhere" said Edmonde. The UFO appeared to be structured and more importantly, it seemed to be playing with her: it was literally answering her thoughts. The scene lasted for over one hour, much to the astonishment of her previously sceptical colleague. That same night, Edmonde learnt that a shoot out had taken place in the hotel where she was supposed to have been staying, killing 17 people in all.

To this day, she feels the aliens saved her life!

Edmonde's next encounter is extremely spectacular and is situated between alien contact and space and time shifts. It took place in Marseilles one warm July evening of 1984. She was travelling with her personal taxi driver, a French-Tunisian. As they reached the Marseilles Sant Charles area (Central Station), Edmonde and her driver noticed how calm the city was: not a single passer by, not one car. They thought this strange as in July the city is always full of holiday makers (the 'Oz' factor).

Suddenly the pair had the impression that the car had lifted off the road. All of a sudden, they both noticed in horror that a strange 3 wheel car had passed by them, its shape was almost round (nothing like the 3 wheel car made famous in the 'Mr Bean' series in the early 90's). However, what frightened them most was the driver of the car: a woman with totally green skin, green hair and enormous spots all over her body. Her description can be matched with that of the reptilian beings often encountered in the USA and Canada.

French Connection Contd.

Then suddenly both Edmonde and the cabby found themselves back on the busy streets Marseilles. They both had the impression that they had travelled in another dimension. Edmonde noticed that after her journey in the other dimension her skin became smoother, her cholesterol that had previously been very high was back to normal. Benoit's (the taxi driver) hair had regained its usual colour and his skin whitened in the weeks following their journey through space and time.

(3) The next case concerns a man named Mr 'D' and five other witnesses. He is 62 years old and has worked as a senior technician in civil aviation. The events that changed his life occurred on the 10th January 1998 in Harivilliers (a hamlet near Paris). At 7am our hero was going hunting with four friends. They were going to join a party of 25 other local men. At 7.20am one of the party was just arriving near the meeting point when he noticed a gigantic saucer shape hovering over him. It was 50 meters in diameter and emitted extremely powerful multi-coloured lights that bathed his car. The scene lasted about 30 seconds and afterwards, departed in the direction of Mr D's car.

As Mr D saw the object he felt compelled to go under it (he also described a feeling of intense sadness as he saw the object). As the 5 friends went under the saucer, they experienced a total blackout that lasted about 3 minutes. Afterwards, the craft departed and the 5 men joined the rest of the hunters.

They didn't mention the incident during the whole hunt but later discovered that the first man had also seen the object as well as another member of the party who had been following them.

Gerald Deforges, a researcher who first investigated the case, discovered that the latter witness was a retired top military officer at the Taverny military base that is home to part of France's nuclear weapons. The importance the case played in Mr D's life was however only discovered later.

In the weeks following his encounter the main witness tried to forget all about it, however he began to get bizarre impressions that led him to contact Gerard Deforges from the 'LUMIERES DANS LA NUIT' journal.

First of all he began to have a feeling that he had encountered a being similar to the tin woodman in the film 'The Wizard of Oz'. For Mr D, that being was soulless and devoid of emotion. He also began to receive thoughts about advanced physics and astronomy, two subjects that had never previously interested him. For instance, he told Deforges that the whole universe was 'binary' and that he had developed an interest in Tachyons (elementary particles that may move faster than the so called 'speed of light barrier').

Mr D also began to think that he had a mission in life. He convinced that he underwent an abduction during his brief period of missing time. This seems to be confirmed by various other signs that are very physical. In two months following the encounter Mr D developed a condition that was medically assessed as 'kerato-conjunctivitis'. The optician that examined him stated that only an exposure to high energy ultra violet radiation could have caused such an inflammation.

None of the other witnesses suffered identical lesions; however Mr D stated that he had stuck his head out of the car as they passed under the UFO. Our main witness also suffered from a bluish growth between his toes. He believes this is due to the insertion of an implant during his brief period of missing time. Deforges also noticed a brown mark on the witnesses left cheek that he says he has had since the encounter.

This case is currently still being investigated. There have recently been a few discoveries made that could indicate Mr D might be a regular abductee and that members of his family might also have been contacted by aliens. Like many abductees our witness has always felt that he had a 'mission in life'. More importantly, Mr D has suffered from a rare blood disorder called real polyglobulemia since his teenage years. Research in the USA has shown that abductees often possess rare blood groups.

Prior to the January 10th incident, 2 members of Mr D's family had sighted UFO's. Could they be abductees? Unless the rest of the family are prepared to talk, we shall never know.

The French Connection:

Part 2: Analysis and Theories

These cases show us that the UFO contact phenomenon is very widespread in France and that evidence seems to point to the fact that it is worldly. Let us try and find the meaning to all of this.

First of all we might ask where do the aliens come from? Well the conclusion that I have come to after talking to the people that I have met, is that the UFO phenomenon has multiple origins.

Some UFO's seem to come from outer space, for they have been tracked on radar. Once here they leave multiple marks on the contactees bodies, as was shown in Mr D's case. In many incidents the ufonauts seem as physical and as material as we are.

However to reduce the alien contact phenomenon to one single theory is far too simplistic, as a great part of the UFO phenomenon seems to overlap the barriers of psychic phenomenon. Let us reflect on Edmonde and her journey into space and time. In that other reality the entity that she encountered was almost identical to the reptilians that are so widely described in the USA or Canada.

We know that like Edmonde, many contactees develop psychic abilities that range from clairvoyance to mediumship. They develop second sight and are often plagued by a poltergeist-like phenomenon.

Is it possible that some aliens could originate from other dimensions in space and time and that they somehow pop into our reality through some mysterious doorway?

There is also another point of origin that is worth discussing, it is often dismissed even by the most liberal Ufologists but I think it is a possibility like any other. 'Some' aliens could originate from underground bases/caves beneath the earth's crust, or even bases under the sea that have yet to be discovered.

This assumption is based on the fact there have been incidents where the UFO's have been seen coming in and out of the sea. Edmonde, who has become a channeler since her contact experience, has received messages telling her about a race of lizard-like humanoids that live in caves beneath the earth's crust and have always had contact with surface humans. Is this piece of news genuine or is it manipulation on the part of the aliens? At this time no one can claim to have all the answers!

What is the purpose of an alien or 'non human' presence in the skies of France and the world?

To answer this question we must look at the intentions of the aliens. It is clear that one cannot say all the aliens are benevolent. From what we can see in the 3 French cases, some aliens seem well disposed while others seem not.

There is certainly a difference between the manipulative entities met by JC and the lifesaving aliens encountered by Edmonde. Other aliens seem total indifferent to humans: neither hostile nor benevolent: they treat us like lab. Animals. One of the contactees I met at a conference, but whose account is not mentioned in this paper, said very emotionally that what shocked him the most with the Greys (the aliens he encountered) was their lack of compassion, the lack of emotion they showed towards their human victims. Mr D said that the impression he received from the aliens were that they felt cold, emotionless almost like robots of some sort.

The fact that some aliens seem hostile or indifferent is worrying, however even more frightening is the fact that we could be witnessing a silent invasion: in a subtle way some aliens could be modifying the genetic structure of the abductees for their own reasons and purposes.

When one looks at the health reports concerning abductees, one can see that their blood is different to that of other people: Mr D is affected by polyglobulemia, a rare blood condition. About 15% of abductees possess the B-blood group that is rare in other categories of the population. Many of the population, be it in France or some other country possess psychic powers (Edmonde who has a gift for clairvoyance and healing is just one example). If this theory is true let us hope that humanity will be the beneficiary of these alterations....Alas only time will tell.

The French Connection Contd.

Many readers will want to know if the French government knows what is going on. I think the answer is YES, however I think it is powerless to do anything about it. Therefore under the cover of open mindedness (the creation of GEPAN in the mid seventies) the French government has imposed severe censorship on UFO matters.

Is it a coincidence that the SEPRA was more or less dissolved after its chairman Jean Jacques Velasco announced in his last book that the UFO phenomenon was of extraterrestrial origin? Why is the UFO subject ridiculed on talk shows and in the mainstream press? How is it possible that an incident like the Haravillier event did not receive any coverage from the national press?

Why was the COMETA report not even commented on by national TV or a government spokesman? Why is the Roswell incident, in France, more than anywhere else, only assimilated to the infamous alien autopsy film, in magazines and in the media?

The answer to all this censorship lies in the fact that like most other major governments the French government knows about the unearthly presence in our midst but is incapable of doing anything about it.

As I write this article, more cases of contact are being discovered in France and I will therefore keep you informed in a future report. But I ask you, with the alien presence and the blackout that surrounds information dealing with it, can we survive as a species?

Paul Pontssot

Omar Fowler Comments:

What a most interesting document Paul has produced about his research into the subject of abductions and contactee's in modern-day France. Especially when you consider that this is his first foray into the field of 'Ufology'.

His investigations have been part of a project connected with a paper that he is producing as part of his University work. He first approached us earlier this year, asking if we would assist him with initial guide lines on how to approach the subject and then to assess his work and to publish it if possible.

You will have read his report and although his first case smacks of psychosis, he has persevered, aided by a 'contactee' questionnaire supplied by the PRA.

The discoveries that he has made during his investigations help to confirm a pattern associated with contactee cases worldwide. This is convincing evidence from an investigator that was largely unaware of the incidents repeatedly found in contactee cases.

We have his discovery that some contactees had early childhood experiences of seeing small figures in their bedroom. There was the experience of the contactees who suddenly found they had lost three hours of time, with one being taken for examination while the other were kept in a state of paralysis. The meeting with the 'Reptilians'!

The strange case of the taxi travelling to Marseilles, with the two occupants becoming aware of the strange silence and lack of people or traffic being around. Something that I too have encountered in my investigations and a phenomenon that the author and investigator Jenny Randles has described as the 'OZ Factor'.

Paul also came across instances where the 'contactee' had recognised a complete lack of compassion and feeling from the alien being, methodically carrying out a physical examination of the helpless victim. This is an example once again confirming the lack of emotion exhibited by the aliens (or their robots).

In all, an excellent piece of research carried out by Paul Ponsot and we anxiously await the follow-up!

'CORAL CASTLE'

A modern mystery sent in to us by Andrew Johnson

A Lost Love, Coral Castle, and the Case for Anti-Gravity

For many of us interested in the subjects OVNI covers, we may still be surprised to find there may be a link between the Ancient Egyptians, a Tourist Attraction in Florida and the Flying Saucer Phenomenon. At least, this was what I thought when someone sent me a web link to an article about Coral Castle - the work of a man called Edward Leedskalnin. A great name to conjure with already!

Ancient Egyptians

I was fortunate enough to enjoy a holiday in Cairo in 1997, and realised a life-long dream of entering the Great Pyramid at Giza, but we also saw other magnificent sites in the area. Like many sites in Rome, Egypt is a place where Ancient History is palpable. One particular site, about 10 miles from Cairo is called Saqqara. In Saqqara, there is an underground burial chamber complex called The Serapeum, where sacred Bulls were buried. Here is the entry from the diary I kept at the time:

In one of these chambers, we view an enormous sarcophagus, made of basalt. Its surface is marble-smooth and on one side are etched hieroglyphics and pictures. The top of the sarcophagus rises about 6 and a half feet above the ground and the lid is about 1½ feet thick. I begin to imagine the work it took to carve out the chamber from the solid rock, then to make the enormous sarcophagus and then place it centrally in the chamber. My imagination fails me when I walk past the other 24 identical chambers and look upon their sarcophagi, looted long ago.

As with the Pyramids and similar structures, one asks "how was this made?" Can it be correct that these things were constructed using only simple stone tools, rollers, piles of earth, huge numbers of men and brute force? Theories that this was not the case are never taken very seriously. But could a place like Coral Castle (which was originally called "Rock Gate Park") ever be taken as proof that such theories about "brute force" methods of construction are not necessarily correct in all cases?



Edward Leedskalnin

Edward Leedskalnin was born on August 10th, 1887 to a farming family at Stramereens Pogosta, a small village near Riga, Latvia, but he emigrated to North America in about 1913.

While working in a Canadian lumber camp, Leedskalnin contracted tuberculosis and, in 1918, moved to the warmer climate of Florida. There, he purchased an acre of land near Florida City, for \$12. He had no formal education.

Lost Love

The reason why Ed emigrated seems to be related to the fact that, when he was 26 years old, he was engaged to be married to his one true Love, Agnes Scuffs. Agnes was ten years younger than Ed; he affectionately referred to Agnes as his "Sweet Sixteen". Agnes cancelled the wedding just one day before the ceremony - apparently saying Ed was too poor and too old! Ed was heartbroken. After settling in Florida, some 5 years after this great disappointment, he began a "project" which is said to be the result of his will to create a monument to his lost love - to show her what he was capable of. Like the Taj Mahal, Coral Castle was built as a testament to his loved one.

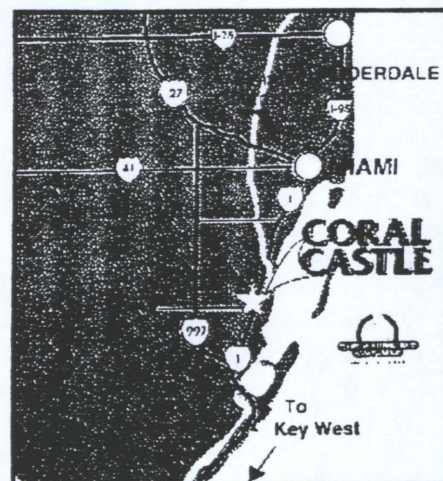
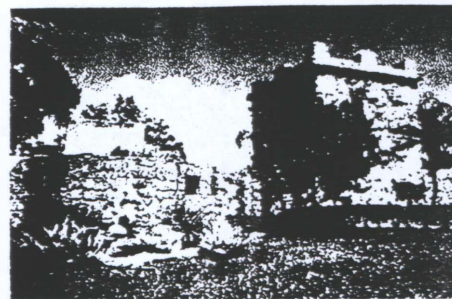
Coral Castle - A Tourist Attraction

Coral Castle is now a tourist attraction and the story of its construction seems to be remarkable and mysterious. Unlike many other stories and phenomena we hear of, Coral Castle can be visited any day of the year. It opens at 7 am and closes at 9 pm. The current adult admission price is only \$9.75 - I can't wait to see it myself! The Website (<http://www.coralcastle.com/>) has directions and a map.

Before this issue of OVNI begins to sound too much like a travel magazine, let's look at some of the curious things about Coral Castle.

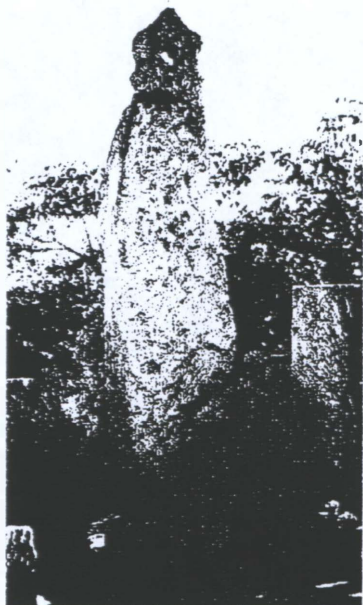
Ed started to build Coral Castle where he originally lived, in Florida City, in about 1924. It is called Coral Castle, because Coral is the material from which it is made. Ed had acquired some skills working in lumber camps and some stone mason's skills whilst he was still in Latvia. His blocks were carved at the original Florida City site, as he constructed the place.

The construction work continued until about 1936, when he found out that someone planned to start building housing (or at least some kind of building) next to him. Being intensely private and reclusive, Ed decided to "up bricks" and leave and he



transported the nearly-complete Coral Castle to a new site, which was 10 acres of land he had purchased at Homestead (still in Florida), 10 miles away from the original site. This move took him 3 years to complete.

This story doesn't sound so unusual, until you realise that Ed built the whole of Coral Castle himself, using only tools and equipment that he made. Ed was 5 ft. tall and weighed about 100 lbs – a diminutive 7 stone! This tale still doesn't sound quite like OVNI material until you realise that the abode he constructed was no maisonette, bungalow or 3-bed semi. - the blocks Ed used to build Coral Castle weighed up to 30 tons!



There are quite a number of intriguing structures at Coral Castle. One such structure called *The Great Obelisk* is over 25 feet high and weighs over 28 tons - taller than the Great Upright at Stonehenge. Carved on its surface is the year of completion, the year it was moved and the year and country of Ed's birth. The hole near the top is carved in the shape of the Latvian star.

Among its other oddities is a scattering of oversized chairs also made of coral, each one weighing half a ton. Although they look extremely uncomfortable, the chairs are said to be exceptionally restful and balanced into perfect rockers. Another unusual construction is a heart-shaped table - which is estimated to weigh about 5 tons. Always practical, even in romance, Ed decided it would be too difficult to keep fresh flowers on his feast of Love Table. His solution was to plant an Ixora bush in the centre of the table. Ed's original plant has been in place for almost 50 years.



When Ed moved the site, many people saw the coral carvings being transported along the Dixie Highway, but no one had actually ever seen Ed loading or unloading the trailer. In 1940, after the carvings were in place, Ed finished erecting the walls. The coral walls weigh about 125 pounds per cubic foot. Each section of wall is 8 feet tall, 4 feet wide, 3 foot thick, and weighs more than 58 tons!

It has been estimated that 1,000 tons of coral rock were used in construction of the walls and towers, and an additional 100 tons of it were carved into furniture and art objects, which adorn the site.

These facts, then, present us with several puzzles. Firstly, how did Ed single-handedly carve out these blocks? Secondly, how on earth did he move them, and lift them into place without large cranes or other heavy-duty equipment? Even if you decide that he must have used some kind of crane, as a comparison, consider this story about a modern construction project:



"My company recently installed a hydraulic press that weighed 65 tons. In order to lift it and drop it through the roof, they had to bring in a special crane. The crane was brought to the site in pieces and was transported from 80 miles away over a period of five days. After 15 semi-trailer loads, the crane was finally assembled and ready for use.



As the press was lowered into its specially prepared pit, I asked one of the riggers about the heaviest weight he had lifted. He claimed that it was a 110-ton nuclear power plant vessel. When I related to him the 70 and 200 ton weights of the blocks of stone used inside the Great Pyramid and the Valley Temple, he expressed amazement and disbelief at the primitive methods that are promoted by Egyptologists."

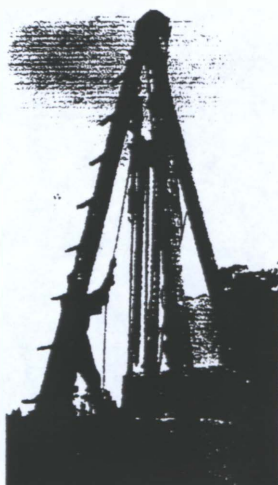
Thirdly, how can he possibly have moved these blocks a distance of 10 miles? It is reported that Ed had the chassis of an old truck on which he laid two rails. Ed would load the trailer himself. He had a friend with a tractor move the loaded trailer from Florida City to Homestead. Ed lived a very simple life, and did not own a car. Instead, Ed would ride his bike 3½ miles into town, to do his shopping! So somehow, Ed managed to construct coral Castle *and move it* a distance of 10 miles, apparently with no special equipment *at all!*

The details of how he did it are not clear. If it was done by some kind of trickery or as a "magician's stunt", then it must surely rank as the greatest (and longest) ever performed. It certainly does not seem to be possible that the blocks are hollowed out - unless someone has carefully replaced them one by one, as they must have crumbled over the years.

Ed Leedskalnin worked in secrecy, after sundown - by lantern light, when he was certain no one was watching him. It was reported that some curious neighbours did see Ed move the stones. They say he placed his hands on the stone to be lifted... but

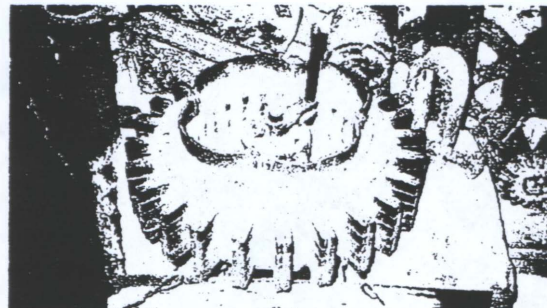
what was in his hands? Somehow this levitated the blocks. According to an article in *Fate* magazine, "some teenagers spying on him one evening claimed they saw him 'float coral blocks through the air like hydrogen balloons,' but no one took them seriously. When he was personally asked how he managed the feat, Leedskalnin replied only that he understood the laws of weight and leverage. He is also quoted as saying, "I have discovered the secrets of the pyramids. I have found out how the Egyptians and the ancient builders in Peru, Yucatan, and Asia, with only primitive tools, raised and set in place blocks of stone weighing many tons." The very stones of Coral Castle support his story - at an average of six tons, they are twice the weight of the blocks in Egypt's Great Pyramid at Giza. According to *The Enigma of Coral Castle*, Ed disagreed with modern science, and claimed that the scientists were wrong, 'that nature is simple.'

What other evidence is there that he did not use cranes or other heavy equipment to build his masterpiece?



The Case for Anti-Gravity

At the castle, you can see the tool room where some of Ed's equipment is on show. One item (pictured right) is said to be an AC generator he built, though how he used this is not really known. At one time Ed erected a massive grid of copper wire poised above his quarried stones - there is quite a lot of copper wire in his workshop. Pictures also show Ed working with tripods, though none of these are seen anywhere on the site.



A man called Christopher Dunn suggests that the device shown above is not an AC ("alternating current") generator, but an "alternating magnetism" generator. He proved this by holding a bar magnet near the device and setting the "generator" in motion and found that the North end of the magnet was alternately repelled and attracted. Dunn goes on to suggest that gravity may not be a "real" force - it arises due to an object's own magnetic field interacting with the Earth's magnetic field. He also suggests that Ed had devised a method for making the magnetic fields within the coral blocks line up in opposition to the Earth's magnetic field. As a guess, Ed wrapped the blocks with a copper wire grid and then connected this wire to his magnetic field generator. Starting up the generator then had the effect of changing the magnetic field in or around the block in such a way that it was levitated. It is therefore suggested that the tripods were used merely as a way of supporting the wires and chains which were used on the copper grid - or maybe they were used in the photographs as a "decoy", to throw people off the scent of how he actually did it (i.e. they may not have been used in the lifting procedure at all). Carrol A. Lake, a colonel in the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, stated, "Leedskalnin proved for all the world to see today that he knew the construction secrets of the ancients." Vincent H. Gaddis, who wrote a number of articles for *Amazing Stories* magazine, said of the mysterious Latvian immigrant, "There is no doubt that he applied some principle in weight lifting that remains a secret today." Or is it just the case that no one has understood the articles Ed Leedskalnin wrote in 1945 about "Magnetic Current" and no one has developed them into a working method? (<http://www.fortunecity.com/greenfield/bp/16/leed1.htm>).

The idea of gravity and magnetism being inter-related is certainly not new. Wilbert Smith and, more recently, John Hutchinson (the "Hutchinson Effect") have carried out experiments that seem to strongly indicate that a non-magnetic (or non-ferrous) object's weight can be influenced by magnetic fields. It has been stated many times that this inter-relation is at least partly responsible for various phenomena associated with Flying Saucers - including propulsion. Thomas Townsend-Brown was also quite a prominent figure to have worked on theories such as these, and whose work has been reportedly developed into "ARV's" (Alien Reproduction Vehicles) in "Black Projects" in the USA such as the TR-3B. Sightings, photographs and videos of strange objects over Area 51 and similar facilities do nothing to disprove these ideas. Such ideas are also supported by a number of witnesses who state they have either directly seen or been involved in such projects.

Returning to the story of Coral Castle, in December 1951 Ed fell ill. He put a sign on the door of his Castle saying "Going to the Hospital" and bussed himself to Jackson Memorial Hospital in Miami. Three days later he died in his sleep, of malnutrition and kidney failure, at the age of 64. After his death, his only surviving relative, Harry who lived in Michigan, inherited the Castle. In 1953, shortly before Harry's own death, he sold the Castle to a family from Chicago, who gave it its present name. During the take-over, a box of Ed's personal effects was found. It contained a set of instructions that led to the discovery of 35- \$100 bills, Ed's life savings - which he made by giving tours of the castle for 10¢ or 25¢, selling pamphlets and from the sale of the land where U.S. Highway 1 passes the Castle.

One would have thought that because Coral Castle was built and still exists - a testament to "lost love" - people might take the theories of someone like Leedskalnin much more seriously. Perhaps people again have developed methods similar to Ed's, but they have been suppressed. He was either onto something, or he pulled off perhaps the greatest civil engineering hoax in history.

Sources: <http://www.coralcastle.com/>, <http://www.rense.com/general10/geo.htm>, <http://www.rense.com/general39/coral.htm>, http://www.bercilak.com/bercilak_046.htm

The Evening Sky July 2004

Two quintessential summer stars offer an interesting study in contrast. Vega shines bluish-white and hangs in the tiny, self-contained constellation of Lyre, almost overhead. Antares shines with a ruby, golden orange hue and adorns the massive, uncoiling constellation of Scorpio. Scorpio barely crawls above the southern horizon, yet you cannot fail to spot Antares.

Observing star colour is quite exciting because we realise that all of the stars in the sky are different. If we were observing the heavens from a high desert plateau, thousands of stars of various different colours would furnish our field of vision. I have been fortunate enough to observe the heavens from several high desert plateaux; regions where one feels you could reach out and touch the stars.

Jupiter is still high enough for easy viewing in the western sky as night falls. Mercury shines very low in the west-north-west just after sunset for most of July. The red planet, Mars can be seen close to Mercury during evening twilight but Mars will disappear from view as July progresses. Venus shines brightly, low in the eastern dawn sky. Saturn begins to rise very far to the lower left of Venus during bright dawn on the last few mornings of July.

There are two Full Moons in July - yippee! The first Full Moon occurs on the 1st, and the second Full Moon occurs on the 31st. It is quite rare to have two Full Moons in one month. The second Full Moon we call a Blue Moon and hence the saying 'once in a Blue Moon'. The saying comes from a mixture of French and English: "double moon". Pronounce the first word "doo bleu" and one can see how it became "blue".

A mystical sight occurs on the 13th when a fine crescent Moon hangs above the planet Venus. Do not miss this magical event which has inspired many national flags: a fine crescent cradling a bright star.

At dusk on the 20th a slender Moon shines to the right of Jupiter and the next evening the same waxing Moon shines to Jupiter's upper left. This 'happening' provides an excellent opportunity to observe the Moon travelling across the sky in 'real' time.

The Greek Olympiad was held for about a week in July and has, like so many events we celebrate today astronomical connections. The festival was held in honour of Zeus and consisted of competitions in athletics, drama, music, and other activities. During the time of the Olympiad all participants were given safe conduct to and from the games. The petty Greek squabbles were put aside - a lesson we clearly need to learn today. A victory in the Olympiad was a great achievement both for the individual and for their city.

The Egyptian year was measured against the Nile and its yearly fertile floods. The Egyptian New Year fell in July, as did the Opet Festival, which commemorated the marriage of Isis and Osiris. Their sexual union was said to bring good luck to all people. About the same time in Rome, the love of Venus and Adonis was celebrated.

Understanding others and ourselves in a non-threatening way, and valuing difference will surely go some way to solving the world's troubles. For no reason, let us celebrate July as a month of love: love for each other, love for our planet and love for our universe.

Enjoy Your Evening Sky!

Walter Berg - walterberg@theeveningsky.co.uk

TALE ENDERS

A PERSONAL TRAGEDY occurred for OVNI editor Omar Fowler, when on July 1st he was notified that his only son Michael had been badly injured in a motorcycle crash in Spain. Michael was rushed to Barcelona hospital but died the following day.

NEW UFO MAGAZINE NOW ON-LINE. We are pleased to inform our members that Russell Kellett has now launched his new on-line UFO magazine. This can be seen at www.ufoparanormal.com Initially free of charge to viewers, but some costs may have to be recovered on future editions.

BOOKS FOR SALE: PRA member Kevin Owen of 34 Telegraph st. Shipston-on-Stour, Warcs. CV36 4DA, has the following books for sale. 'UFO A Deadly Concealment', by Derek Sheffield featuring the official cover-up of the Belgium flap Nov 89– March 90 £6 incl. postage. Plus 'The Worlds Greatest UFO Mysteries', by Nigel Blundell & Roger Boar. £4 incl. Postage.

MYSTERY BANG IN THE NIGHT was heard by PRA member Dan L'Estrange and his wife at 3.15am on Saturday 15th May. Dan lives in the Spondon area (near Derby) and looked out of his window, half expecting to see either a glowing fire or at least to hear the sound of approaching emergency vehicles, but there was only the sound of barking dogs. There was nothing mentioned on the local news and the source of the 'explosion' remains a mystery.

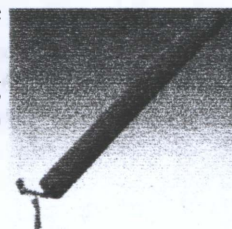
INTERNATIONAL CO-OPERATION: We have been pleased to hear from **David Marler**, the Illinois State Director of 'MUFON' the Mutual UFO Network (USA) David has a particular interest in the 'Flying Triangle' craft, along with his colleague **Darryl Barker**, who produced an excellent video documentary on the events of the 5th January 2000 (shown to PRA members some months ago). Omar Fowler had a one hour telephone chat with David on the 19th June and has subsequently mailed a number of 'FT' incidents investigated by the PRA for him to study.

Sybille Beyer, (Berlin, Germany) the wife of the late Victor J. Kean, recently met Omar Fowler in Nottingham, while on a visit to England. The sad loss of Victor, a brilliant FT researcher, will stay with us for many years to come.

LORD HILL-NORTON died on Sunday 16th May at the age of 86. Admiral of the Fleet The Lord Hill-Norton was a former Chief of the Defence Staff and Chairman of the NATO military Committee.

His interest in UFO's developed after his retirement and he wrote forewords to a number of Timothy Good's books. He tabled a number of UFO questions in Parliament over national security issues.

'FLYING CIGARS' have been reported from various locations around England (See last months OVNI 'Nottingham Cigar'). It seems that the culprit is a 40' long by 4' dia. plastic balloon, filled only with air, but then heated by the sun and subsequently rising to altitude. These are imported from the USA (see picture) and cost only about £12.00 (Source: Paul Usher)



THE NEXT PRA MEETING

Will be held at 8pm on Tuesday 27th July at the Royal British Legion, Allenton, Derby.

A presentation by **Andrew Johnson**

'Mars, Pyramids and Changes in the Solar System'

Is there any evidence of past or present life on Mars? What is the meaning of, or explanation for, various anomalies which seem to be present in a number of pictures from Mars? What is the meaning of the changes in the Solar System, which seem to have been happening over the last few decades? Are these changes linked in any way to anomalies on Mars? Come and listen to Andrew's theories.

Plus all the latest UFO news. £1 on the night. Non-members welcome. Free UFO book raffle.

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